
By: **Senators Ruben, Forehand, Frosh, and Garagiola**
Introduced and read first time: February 5, 2004
Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments
Senate action: Adopted
Read second time: March 11, 2004

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Vehicle Laws - Interference with Operation of Traffic Control Signal**
3 **Altering Devices - Prohibition Device or Railroad Sign or Signal -**
4 **Prohibitions**

5 ~~FOR the purpose of prohibiting a person without lawful authority from possessing~~
6 ~~certain devices that are capable of transmitting certain signals to a traffic~~
7 ~~control signal for the purpose of altering or interfering with the operation of the~~
8 ~~traffic control signal; and generally relating to prohibiting the possession of~~
9 ~~devices that alter or interfere with traffic control signals.~~

10 FOR the purpose of clarifying that a person without lawful authority may not
11 interfere with the operation of a traffic control device or a railroad sign or signal;
12 prohibiting a person without lawful authority from possessing, with an intent to
13 use, certain devices capable of transmitting certain signals for the purpose of
14 altering or interfering with the operation of a traffic control device or a railroad
15 sign or signal; providing for a certain penalty; and generally relating to
16 prohibiting a person from interfering with the operation of a traffic control
17 device or a railroad sign or signal or possessing, with an intent to use, certain
18 devices under certain circumstances.

19 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
20 Article - Transportation
21 Section ~~21-206~~ 21-206(a)
22 Annotated Code of Maryland
23 (2002 Replacement Volume and 2003 Supplement)

24 BY adding to

1 Article - Transportation
 2 Section 21-206(h)
 3 Annotated Code of Maryland
 4 (2002 Replacement Volume and 2003 Supplement)

5 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
 6 Article - Transportation
 7 Section 27-101(c)(20)
 8 Annotated Code of Maryland
 9 (2002 Replacement Volume and 2003 Supplement)

10 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
 11 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

12 **Article - Transportation**

13 21-206.

14 (a) A person without lawful authority may not willfully alter, OR INTERFERE
 15 WITH THE OPERATION OF, any traffic control device or any railroad sign or signal,
 16 including any inscription, shield, or insignia on it.

17 ~~(b) A person without lawful authority may not willfully deface any traffic~~
 18 ~~control device or any railroad sign or signal, including any inscription, shield, or~~
 19 ~~insignia on it.~~

20 ~~(c) A person without lawful authority may not willfully injure any traffic~~
 21 ~~control device or any railroad sign or signal, including any inscription, shield, or~~
 22 ~~insignia on it.~~

23 ~~(d) A person without lawful authority may not willfully knock down any traffic~~
 24 ~~control device or any railroad sign or signal, including any inscription, shield, or~~
 25 ~~insignia on it.~~

26 ~~(e) A person without lawful authority may not willfully change the direction of~~
 27 ~~any traffic control device or any railroad sign or signal, including any inscription,~~
 28 ~~shield, or insignia on it.~~

29 ~~(f) A person without lawful authority may not willfully twist any traffic~~
 30 ~~control device or any railroad sign or signal, including any inscription, shield, or~~
 31 ~~insignia on it.~~

32 ~~(g) A person without lawful authority may not willfully remove any part of any~~
 33 ~~traffic control device or any railroad sign or signal, including any inscription, shield,~~
 34 ~~or insignia on it.~~

35 (H) A PERSON WITHOUT LAWFUL AUTHORITY MAY NOT POSSESS, WITH AN
 36 INTENT TO USE, ANY DEVICE CAPABLE OF TRANSMITTING AN INFRARED,

1 ELECTRONIC, OR OTHER SIGNAL TO A TRAFFIC CONTROL ~~SIGNAL~~ DEVICE OR A
2 RAILROAD SIGN OR SIGNAL FOR THE PURPOSE OF ALTERING OR OTHERWISE
3 INTERFERING WITH THE OPERATION OF THE TRAFFIC CONTROL ~~SIGNAL~~ DEVICE OR
4 A RAILROAD SIGN OR SIGNAL.

5 27-101.

6 (c) Any person who is convicted of a violation of any of the provisions of the
7 following sections of this article is subject to a fine of not more than \$500 or
8 imprisonment for not more than 2 months or both:

9 (20) § 21-206 ("Interference with traffic control devices or railroad signs
10 and signals");

11 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
12 October 1, 2004.